

## House Republican Press Release

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### **Rep. Kalinowski Urges Citizens to “ICE” Their Cell Phones**



State Rep. Raymond C. Kalinowski, R-100<sup>th</sup>, Middletown, Middlefield and Durham, today urged Connecticut residents to “ICE” their cell phones by storing the phone numbers of family members or friends to be notified “In Case of Emergency” (ICE). Separately, Gov. M. Jodi Rell and State Public Safety Commissioner Leonard Boyle gave their support to the ICE program.

“This is a simple concept,” said Rep. Kalinowski. “People can just enter the name of a close relative or friend on their cell phone to be called in case of emergency. This is especially useful for elderly people living alone. Police or other emergency personnel can simply touch ICE on the cell phone to locate the next of kin.”

The contact information is especially useful for paramedics or other emergency personnel responding to incidents where someone has been seriously injured or is otherwise incapable of notifying their families of the situation.

“The ICE initiative gives emergency responders an excellent place to start,” said Representative Kalinowski. “It’s also a common-sense idea for everyone. Plus, it’s free. Many children as young as middle school age have cell phones, as do their parents and grandparents. I encourage everyone to take this simple action today, and give their families some additional peace of mind.”

The Governor and Commissioner Boyle are sending letters to the leaders of the police and fire chiefs associations in Connecticut, urging them to spread the word locally about ICE.

Several next-of-kin registration programs were established in the wake of the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks in this country and some are fee-based. Any cell phone user can utilize ICE at no charge.

A British ambulance service leader conceived ICE earlier this year and it has been widely publicized throughout Europe and elsewhere.

Rep. Kalinowski serves the 100<sup>th</sup> assembly district of Middletown, Middlefield and Durham in the state House of Representatives.